

A TRIBUTE TO GLORIA CONWAY

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to an outstanding woman, Gloria Conway, the long-time editor of the Charlestown Patriot. She recently sold this neighborhood weekly, a publication that she owned with her husband, Jim, for nearly 40 years.

Gloria's passion for her neighborhood was evident in the pages of her paper and in the various charity events she champions with her husband. As editor of The Charlestown Patriot, she would honor a mother's wish to recognize a son's first little league homerun with the same importance as any news emanating from Washington, DC. Her paper creatively balanced a nostalgic tie to Charlestown's historic past while also covering today's relevant topics, and it was always done with a local flair.

The Patriot will remain in Charlestown with Gloria Conway as Publisher Emeritus. It has a different look and new owners, but the decades of positive influence that Gloria Conway provided will endure at the Patriot and within the Charlestown community for years to come. I wish Gloria, Jim and the entire Conway family all the best in whatever the future holds. I want to thank them for their friendship and commitment as they recorded Charlestown's most recent history in their pages.

HONORING JESSICA TURNER

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jessica Turner, an exemplary citizen from my district who was recently named recipient of the Elizabethtown Independent Schools' 2005-06 Excellence in the Classroom and Educational Leadership (ExCEL) Award.

A teacher for more than six years, Ms. Turner promotes a unique style in her classroom that incorporates hard work, cooperation and respect among her kindergarten and first grade students at the Helmwood Heights Elementary School in Elizabethtown, KY. Year after year, she continues to capture the attention of her students, encouraging them to feel comfortable with themselves and with each other as she blends activities with lessons to keep them engaged and learning.

In addition to her work in the classroom, Jessica Turner oversees the professional development of kindergarten, first-grade, and second-grade teachers and is a valuable resource to new faculty. Ms. Turner is also actively involved in numerous teacher training programs including the Kentucky Reading Project and the Louisville Writing Project.

I applaud Jessica Turner's accomplishments in public education, an occupation of great responsibility and even greater reward. On behalf of so many in the Elizabethtown area, I would like to express my profound appreciation for her service and inspiration as she mo-

tivates young people to recognize and develop their talents and abilities.

It is my great privilege to recognize Jessica Turner today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for her achievements as an educator. Her unique dedication to the development and well-being of young people and the communities they will someday serve make her an outstanding citizen worthy of our collective honor and respect.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, this February we commemorate Black History Month. Since 1976, the month of February has been the designated time for honoring the countless African-American contributions to American history and culture. We should all take this opportunity to learn about and understand the Black experience in this country. It has completely revolutionized our shared concepts of freedom, hope, and justice.

In celebrating the progress our country has made because of these contributions, let us also be honest and frank in determining what remains undone. We must work to ensure that all of America's communities have access to the American dream. We cannot ignore the reality that many Americans, particularly within the African-American community, still face serious obstacles in accessing the opportunities everyone deserves in education, health care, home ownership, and economic development. The devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita only serve to highlight the remaining challenges of seeking equality and equal treatment under the law.

We must commit ourselves to challenging the social, political, and economic status quo so that each of us may realize the dream of equal opportunity envisioned by the late Dr. King, and now the late Coretta Scott King. This year, Black History Month will be dedicated to the memory of Ms. King.

Our Nation mourns the recent loss of Coretta Scott King, a true American icon who championed civil and human rights for all Americans. Widow of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., Ms. King first stepped into the international spotlight as the wife and faithful supporter of the famed minister, ultimately emerging as an influential civil rights advocate in her own right. She was 78 at her passing. I hope you will join me in remembering this great person and the precious values that her life embodied. She was not only a symbol of positive change but also a tireless agent of progress. May her work continue to influence future generations in the ongoing fight for justice in this Nation and throughout the world.

During the month of February, I encourage all Americans to honor African-Americans by attending local Black History Month events, or hosting a roundtable discussion about Black History Month at the local library with African-American activists from your community. The best way to honor the African American experience is to educate oneself and one's community. Use this month to expose yourselves to the ways in which the African American experience has already been made a part of your life.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CIVIL LIBERTY SAFEGUARDS CONTAINED IN PATRIOT ACT CONFERENCE REPORT

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include the following House Judiciary Committee press releases that highlight important civil liberty safeguards that are contained in the PATRIOT Act conference report.

PATRIOT Act Conference Report Civil Liberty Safeguard #1—Requiring High-Level Approval and Additional Reporting to Congress for Section 215 Requests for Sensitive Information Such as Library or Medical Records:

Section 215 of the PATRIOT Act authorizes the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or a designee of the Director to apply to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) Court for an order requiring the production of any tangible things (including books, records, papers, documents, and other items) for a foreign terrorism or spy investigation. This authority provides counterterrorism and law enforcement officials a helpful tool to uncover what activities suspected terrorists or spies are engaged in. The Department of Justice testified in April 2005 to the House Judiciary Committee that a Section 215 order had not been used to request sensitive information such as library, bookstore, medical, or gun records and no evidence has been presented to demonstrate otherwise. Nonetheless, some have raised concerns that this authority could be abused by mid-level officials to seek sensitive categories of records about law-abiding Americans.

To address these concerns, the conference report provides that when the documents sought relate to certain sensitive categories of records (such as library, bookstore, tax return, firearms sales, educational, and medical records), only the FBI Director, Deputy Director, or Official-in-Charge of Intelligence may approve the application before it can be submitted to the FISA court. Without the personal approval of one of these 3 officials, the 215 order for these sensitive categories of records may not be issued. Additionally, the conference report establishes enhanced reporting requirements to Congress regarding the use of Section 215, including a breakdown of its use to obtain library, medical, educational, and other sensitive types of records in order to further protect this authority from possibly being abused. These civil liberty safeguards contained in the conference report do not exist under current law.

PATRIOT Act Conference Report Civil Liberty Safeguard #2—Statement of Facts Showing Relevance to a Terrorism or Foreign Spy Investigation Required for Section 215 Requests:

Section 215 of the PATRIOT Act authorizes the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or a designee of the Director to apply to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) Court for an order requiring the production of any tangible things (including books, records, papers, documents, and other items) for a foreign terrorism or spy investigation. This authority provides counter-terrorism and law enforcement officials a helpful and less invasive tool to both uncover what activities suspected terrorists or spies are engaged in and clear innocent people suspected of terrorism or spying. Without Section 215 authority, counter-terrorism and law enforcement officials seeking to discover whether a person is involved in